**LITERATURE APPRECIATION 8**

**CLASS SYLLABUS**

**The mission of Guardian Angels Central Catholic School is to prepare all students to reach their fullest potential by learning and leading through Christ.**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

**Mrs. Kim Knobbe**

**Contact Information**

[**kknobbe@gacatholicschool.org**](mailto:kknobbe@gacatholicschool.org) **– email address**

**402-372-5326 – Central Catholic phone number**

**Sycamore Education – pass-a-note communication**

**BELIEFS:**

Welcome to my class! As your teacher, I believe that:

* All students can learn.
* All students ***want*** to learn.
* Learning ***requires*** work.
* Work needs to be challenging but not impossible.
* Students of all learning styles must be able to learn the concepts and do the work.
* Any student who learns the material and makes a worthy effort to do ***all*** the work should be able to pass the class.

**GOALS:**

Here are some of my goals for you:

* Use phonetic and structural analysis to read, write, and spell grade level text
* Will read a variety of grade level texts fluently with accuracy, appropriate pacing, phrasing, and expression
* Adjust oral or silent reading pace based on purpose, text difficulty, form, and style
* Determine meaning of words through structural analysis using roots, prefixed, and suffixes
* Relate new grade-level vocabulary to prior knowledge and us in new situations
* Select and apply knowledge of context clues and text features
* Analyze and use figurative language, connotations, and subtle distinctions
* Determine meaning using print and digital reference materials
* Analyze the meaning, reliability, and validity of the text
* Identify and analyze elements of narrative text: character development, setting, plot, conflict, point of view, theme
* Identify and analyze author’s use of literary devices: foreshadowing, personification, idiom, oxymoron, hyperbole, flashback, suspense, symbolism, and irony
* Apply knowledge of organizational patterns: sequence, cause/effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion, and proposition/support
* Explain and make inferences based on the characteristics of narrative and informational genres
* Generate and/or answer literal, inferential, and interpretive questions
* Select text for a particular purpose
* Build and activate prior knowledge to clarify and understand text
* Self-monitor comprehension for accuracy and understanding
* Use examples to make inferences or logical predictions while reading text
* Respond to text verbally, written, and artistically

**REQUIRED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES**

The following supplies should be brought to class each day as instructed:

* Library book – required every day you come to class
* 3-subject spiral bound notebook – daily work
* Loose-leaf paper as needed
* Writing supplies – pen and pencil
* Other books and supplies as requested by the teacher

**CLASSROOM GUIDELINES**

1. Always show respect for everyone in the class. Treat others the way you want to be treated.
2. Don’t talk when someone else is talking! Wait your turn.
3. Come to class with all your needed supplies – this includes assignments!
4. Have a positive attitude!
5. When in doubt, ask a question.
6. Students will also obey all other school rules as stated in the handbook.
7. I will notify parents with concerns I have in regards to behavior.

**ABSENCES**

When a student is absent, they are responsible for making up any work they have missed. If a student is absent; normally one day will be allowed for each day of absence. If a student knows they are going to be missing, they should check with the teacher prior to the absence to get the assignments for their work. Under these circumstances, the work in normally due on the day the student returns to school. Any concerns should be brought up with the teacher.

**GRADING**

Students will be evaluated throughout the class through a variety of assignments, projects, quizzes and tests. Major tests will be announced early so you may prepare for them. In addition, we will complete in class review to help you prepare for the test. The in class preparation does not mean you don’t need to study at home. You will still need to review at home.

At times during the year, you will be required to read books and take computer generated quizzes. These books must receive teacher approval. This assignment will have a due date and must be completed by that date. You may also need to complete written work over the book. Those assignments will be given at the same time the book due date is given. During that time, we will be continuing with other content so this will allow you the opportunity to learn how to meet deadlines and allocate your time. Both of those are important skills for lifelong success.

All grades will be given in percentages. Daily grades count once in the grade book. Quizzes and in class assignments also count once in the grade book. Major tests and major assignments and/or projects will be recorded twice to emphasis their importance.

If a student does not turn in an assignment, a zero will be entered in the grade book. The student will have five school days to turn the assignment into the teacher. Ten points will be deducted for each day it is late. After five school days, the zero will become the final grade for the assignment.

If a student is absent and does not turn in an assignment or misses a quiz or test, a zero will be recorded until they student turns in the work or makes up the assignment. By following this procedure, the student is still aware they need to complete the missing work.

I do not allow students to redo daily assignments. On an individual basis, I will determine if a student is allowed to retake a quiz or a test. Retake of a quiz or a test will only be allowed if a student is failing the class. If you are given the opportunity for a retake, this must be completed within two weeks of the date. The highest grade that can be obtained on a retake is a 70%.

If you fail to complete work, I may keep you after school to complete work as needed for mastery of the course objectives. If this happens, I will contact your parents about the situation.

Students are encouraged to check Sycamore on a regular basis to monitor their progress and check for any late or missing work.

The grading scale found in your handbook will be followed for the grading of all assignments. The scale is as follows:

A+/A = 95-100(4.0) B+ = 91-92(3.3) C+ = 84-85(2.3) D+ = 76-77(1.3)

A-=93-94(3.7) B = 88-90(3.0) C = 80-83(2.0) D = 72-75(1.0)

B-= 86-87(2.7) C-= 78-79(1.7) D-= 70-71(0.7)

F = 69 – 0 (0.0)

**EXTRA HELP**

If you are experiencing difficulties, please do not wait too long to see me. The longer you let it go the harder it is to correct the problems. You can ask to see me so we can discuss your work or request extra help.

From time to time, I will ask to see a student because I am concerned about their progress. I will set up a time for us to meet. It is the student’s responsibility to make it at the appointed time. If a student does not show up at the scheduled time, I will notify their parents.

I am usually available to provide extra help before school or after school. From time to time, I will have meetings or a class so I might have to leave school at dismissal time.

**Please sign and return this portion to school.**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**I agree to follow the guidelines set up in the course syllabus for**

**Literature Appreciation 8.**

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**Student Signature**

**I have read and discussed with my student the guidelines set up in the course syllabus for Literature Appreciation 8.**

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**Parent Signature**